GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:247
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
PRIVATE COMPANIES IN TELECOM SECTOR
Chaure Shri Bapu Hari;Gawali Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is encouraging more participation of private companies in the Telecommunication Sector in the country, especially in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the break up of density of telephone connections in rural and urban areas circle-wise in the country, especially in Maharashtra?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 247 FOR 3RD DECEMBER, 2007 REGARDING PRIVATE COMPANIES IN TELECOM SECTOR.

(a) & (b) Given the central aim of New Telecom Policy − 1999 (NTP-99) to ensure rapid expansion of teledensity, Government, in the public interest in general and consumer interest in particular and for the proper conduct of telegraphs and telecommunications services, has issued licences to Private as well as Public Sector Companies for telecom access services throughout India including Maharashtra. This has resulted in reduction in telecom tariff and unprecedented growth of telecom services due to competition.

(c) The circlewise break up of density of telephone connections in rural and urban areas in the country including Maharashtra as on 30.09.2007 is given in the Annexure.